EAST BAY EXPRESS



TUNING IN TO THE MOON

See page 13

INSIDE: *See our feature, "Oakland's Perfect Storm," page 16, and the news story, "The Police Body Camera Wars," page 12.*



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EAST BAY EXPRESS

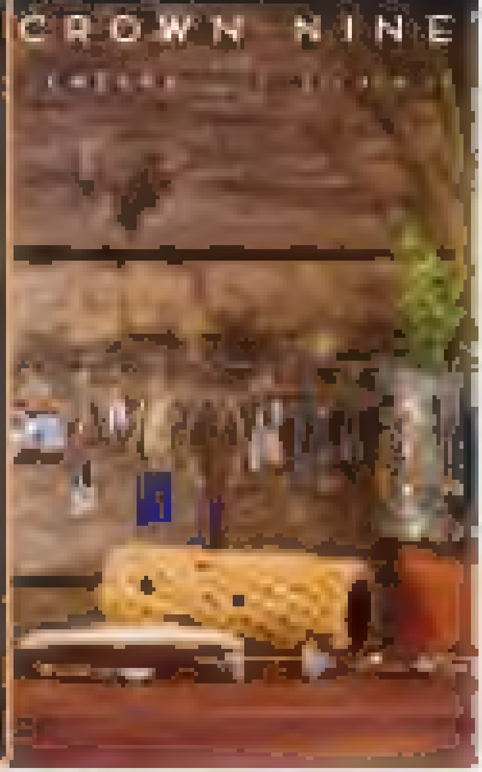

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NEWS&OPINION



LETTERS

Fish Need Water, Period

The striped bass comments from someone in the [agriculture] industry are another red herring thrown out by the very people who have caused the destruction of the Bay-Delta ecosystem. You cannot divert more than 50 percent of the water from a system and expect it to function. Striped bass and salmon thrived together before the construction of the state and federal water projects. Fish need water. Get over it, and give it to them.

[illegible], Oakland

Here's More

Great piece! A few other resources for readers to consider as a follow-up to this report are the formal complaint filed by the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance against the state water board's actions granting temporary waivers of water quality protections to the state and federal water projects, found at WaterBoards.Ca.Gov/Waterrights. Also, regarding the point about mismanagement of the water projects, on behalf of Restore the Delta, I analyzed this behavior in a protest to the state water board. [Both documents can be found at WaterBoards.Ca.Gov/Waterrights/Water_Issues/Programs/Drought.] Happy holidays, everyone.

Tim Stroshane, Albany

It's a Goodwill Gesture

Since most metered spaces have a two-hour limit, the holiday parking program doesn't provide free employee parking or space hogging. It's mostly a goodwill gesture that encourages drivers to shop and dine during that limit rather than head to a mall.

By your reasoning, it would encourage walking or biking, since driving would be more difficult.

Pamela Drake, director of the Lakeshore Avenue Business Improvement District, Oakland

Sam Levin Responds

Ms. Drake, while free holiday parking might seem like a goodwill gesture, research shows that free parking in commercial districts — whether time-limited or not — tends to make it harder for everyone to find convenient available spots. And Oakland's large "free parking" marketing campaign thus seems to directly encourage people to drive, which means many people are likely circling shopping areas for extended periods searching for spaces. If the city wanted to encourage alternative modes of transportation, it could instead promote walking, biking, and public transit in its holiday shopping ads — and provide direct incentives for these greener options, such as special shuttles or extra bike parking.

You Missed the Real Scandal

Anyone who lives and works downtown knows that free or not, there's plenty of parking downtown. There's only a shortage during shows in Uptown because so many garages close before the shows get out, creating artificial scarcity. Example: The Franklin Street Garage closes at 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, 6 p.m. on Saturday and is closed all day Sunday. It's barely one and a half blocks from The Fox [Theater] and two blocks to The Paramount [Theater], but it's closed at night! Almost all Uptown garages close by 9 p.m. — that's crazy! There's the real story, not this half-assed report on free parking that happens six days a year. Oh, and the other story — how do 20 to 40 percent of street-parked cars have handicap placards in downtown Oakland, when only [illegible] percent of the population is permanently handicap to begin with.

[illegible], Oakland

He Will Be Missed

Chief Chris Magnus of the Richmond Police Department will be missed by all. It was a sad day when I learned that he would be moving to Tucson, Arizona. Chief Magnus changed Richmond for the better in many ways. The concept of community policing was new, and it worked very well in solving problems for Richmond. The crime rate went down, residents responded to his community outreach, and he was more visible than any other police chief that I recall as a 24-year resident of Richmond. In addition, he was very responsive to questions, emails, etc., and I especially appreciated the time he took to get to know the community. He will be missed, and the Richmond community hopes that the next police chief will continue the good work started by Chris Magnus.

[illegible], Richmond

The Express Wins Thirteen Awards

Including ten first-place honors for journalism excellence.

By Express staff

The *Express* won thirteen awards, including ten first-place honors, in the 39th Greater Bay Area Journalism Awards contest. The *Express* won the most first-place awards of any non-daily newspaper in the annual contest for journalism excellence, sponsored by the San Francisco Peninsula Press Club. The winners were announced on December 5, and the contest was for news reports published in 2014.

Senior staff writer Sam Levin won two first-place awards. He won in the serious feature category for his October 29, 2014 cover story, "When the Mind Splits," which explored the impacts of dissociative identity disorder and the controversy surrounding the illness. Levin also won first place in the business/technology category for his January 8, 2014 cover story, "When Corporations Want Profits, They Don't Ask for Permission," which examined the recent trend of large retailing companies stealing the work of independent artists.

Food editor Luke Tsai won a first-place award in the feature columns category for his dining reviews, "Pop Rocks" (12/10/14), "The Other Noodle Soup" (7/30/14), and "What Numbs the Tongue Will Warm the Heart" (5/28/14).

Staff writer Darwin BondGraham won a first-place award in the hard news story category for his May 28, 2014 feature, "The Strike Force That Never Struck," which revealed the failures of California Attorney General Kamala Harris' mortgage fraud task force.

Art director [illegible] and photo editor Bert Johnson shared a second-place award in the page design category for the October 29, 2014 cover of the *Express*, featuring the story, "When the Mind Splits." Johnson took the award-winning photo and [illegible] did the illustration.

Arts and culture editor Sarah Burke won a third-place award in the specialty feature category for her October 15, 2014 cover story, "Moral Combat," which explored the vicious harassment campaign leveled at women in the video gaming industry. This story also has won two other first-place awards in other journalism contests.

Editor Robert Gammon won a second-place award in the political news column category for his Seven Days columns, "When Police Kill" (12/10/14), "A Flawed Minimum Wage Measure" (7/16/14), and "Water Officials Made the Drought Worse" (2/5/14).



This story and cover image both won awards.

Former music editor Sam Lefebvre won first place in the entertainment category for his November 19, 2014 cover story, "The Tyranny of Free," which examined Pandora's business strategy of keeping royalty payments low to struggling musicians.

Former co-editor Kathleen Richards won first place in the light feature category for her June 25, 2014 cover story, "Hunting with a Rat," which chronicled her outing of wild boar hunting with a motorcycle club leader.

Contributors Julie Mead and Joshua Mark shared a first-place award in the best series category for their two-part series on the healthcare giant Kaiser, called "Deadly Delays." Mead's part-one story, "A Flawed Model for Care" (10/15/14), examined Kaiser's repeated failures to provide adequate mental health care to patients. Mark's part-two story, "Gambling with Children" (10/22/14), looked at Kaiser's controversial decision to close pediatric care services to children in the East Bay.

Contributor David Bacon won a first-place award in the photo series category for his August 6, 2014 cover story, "Living on the Streets of Oakland," a photo essay that examined the plight of homeless people in the Bay Area's third largest city.

Former contributor Ali Winston won a first-place award in the analysis/investigative category for his September 17, 2014 cover story, "Why Oakland Can't Fire Bad Cops," which examined the flawed and incompetent investigations into police misconduct in the city.

Former contributor Joaquin Palomino won a first-place award in the continuing coverage category for his groundbreaking reports on the California drought and water issues, "California's Thirsty Almonds" (2/5/14) and "The Water Tunnel Boondoggle" (5/23/14).

In addition, Express columnist and web editor Erin Baldassari won a first-place award in the breaking news category for digital media for her coverage of Black Lives Matter protests in Berkeley and Oakland in December 2014 when she was working for Bay City News Service. ●

letters@eastbayexpress.com



THEN AND NOW

Why the Curtain Fell

During the Golden Age of cinema, Oakland and Berkeley boasted dozens of grand, historic movie palaces.

By Laurel Hennen Vigil





12 DAYS of Wellness
Dec. 13–24
DAY 1
25% off
Edibles
DAY 2
25% off
Absolute Extracts Cartridges
DAY 3
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DAY 4
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Kiva Edibles
DAY 5
25% off
Edibles
DAY 6
25% off
Gold Drop Concentrates
DAY 7
25% off
Edibles
DAY 8
25% off
Brownies
DAY 9
25% off
Kiva Edibles
DAY 10
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True Generosity Can't Be Bought

Donating huge sums of money to charity may be philanthropy, but it is not generosity.

By Jay Youngdahl

In October, SFGate, the website of the San Francisco Chronicle, published a story entitled "The 20 Most Generous People in the World." Profiling and featuring the biggest-hearted residents of our globe is a worthy journalistic endeavor, but for the author of this story, there was only one measurement of generosity: money.

Although monetary donations can certainly be generous, when we make money the sole measure of generosity, we devalue the most important traits that bind us together: service, sacrifice, compassion, and caring. The negative effects of this money-focused concept resonate through society today.

There are a number of ways to confront the mainstream [illegible] destructive conflation of wealth and generosity. One would be a political response, noting the dodgy origins of the riches of the top twenty and describing destructive activities attached to their giving. For example, one of the twenty, [illegible] of Saudi Arabia, has been accused of financing Islamist terror organizations with his philanthropy. Closer to home, another member of the list, Eli Broad, has been colluding with the heirs to the Walmart fortune and other foundations to expand privately managed charter schools in Los Angeles to include nearly one-half of the city's children. If successful, this philanthropy, aided by the Broads, will leave Los Angeles public schools reeling, [illegible] teachers. This may be philanthropy, but it is not generosity.

In truth, generosity is a fundamental part of what makes us human and an important factor in the evolutionary rise of our species, stemming from the natural compassion we have for others. When giving our time and energy, we sacrifice for the good of others and in the collective. Generosity, given and received, binds our families and friends together and is the glue of social support in our fractious society. It helps build a compassionate whole, neutralizing the fear and hate we feel and see on our computer screens and televisions.

When we look at our fellow humans, we see a constantly appearing array of generosity. Simply noticing it brightens our day. Certainly, we get something when we give, but the warmth and joy we feel when doing for others is a far cry from the quid pro quo of most modern philanthropy of the wealthy.

In every community, there are countless illustrations of generosity to be honored. In the East Bay we have a sterling example, the Berkeley Free Clinic. Nearly all services at the Berkeley Free Clinic, which started in 1969, are provided by volunteers. Every year, nearly two hundred local residents spend their time providing care and education and doing the repetitive jobs required to keep the clinic running.

One of our reporters, Sam Levin, has written about all manner of local residents who give freely of their time to help others — and exhibit true generosity in the process. He recently wrote about [illegible], an Oakland singer and public school employee who read about how women are the fastest growing segment of the US prison population, and that the vast majority of women behind bars are mothers. Each week for one year, [illegible] voluntarily provided music classes at the San Francisco County Jail, ultimately recording a live album there. You can listen to some of these moving songs on our website. (see [illegible]). [illegible] generosity gladdened the lives of many women — and her own. And in 2014, Levin wrote of Feral Change, an Oakland group concerned about [illegible] cats throughout the East Bay. Trapping around our community, Feral Change traps, neuters, and releases stray cats, which the group and others believe is the only humane and effective way to manage these animals in an urban environment (see "The Oakland Cat Trappers," [illegible]).

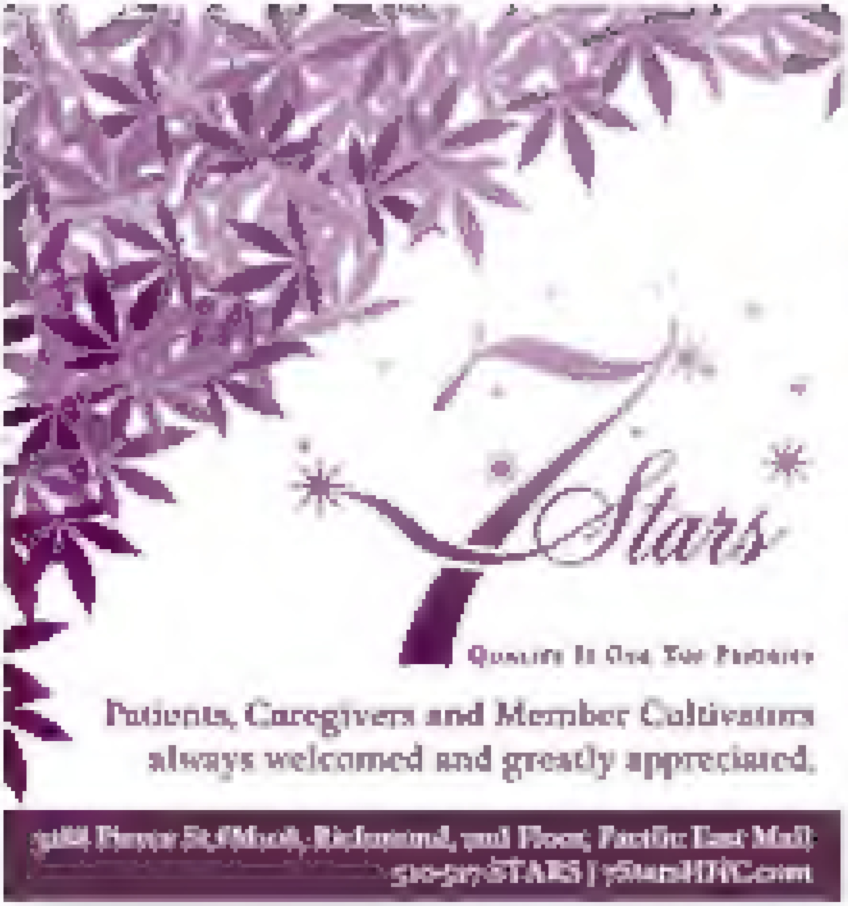
It is often forgotten that generosity flows through struggles for social change. Service to others motivates those who risk jail to confront racist police and undemocratic political structures and workers who fight to maintain an adequate standard of living for their families and their co-workers — like BART workers and nurses and other hospital workers in the Bay Area.

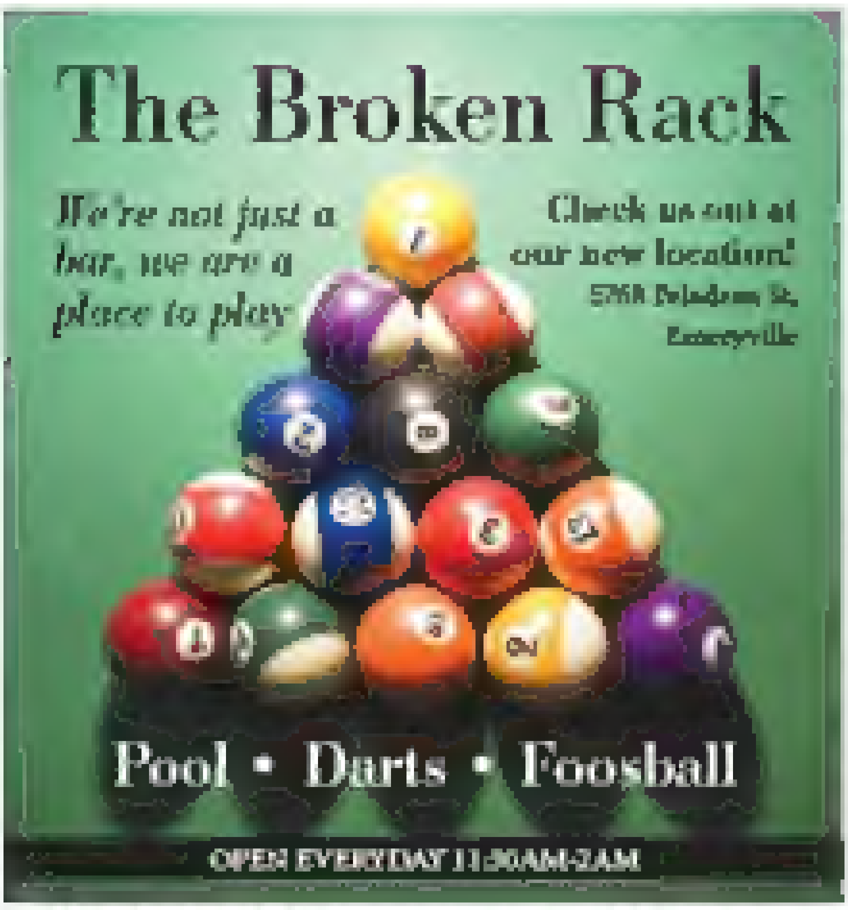
It's good to remember the British social policy scholar, Richard Titmuss, who wrote about the "gift relationship" in which generosity [illegible] the "universal stranger." Titmuss studied national systems for collection of human blood. His work argues that the donation of a part of one's body is a demonstration of human solidarity, emphasizing our shared physical frailties. He found superior results were achieved when blood is collected by donation — not financial compensation. Ignoring the human impulse toward altruism, Titmuss believed, imperils the cornerstones of collective welfare and a just and caring society.

Life is busy and stressful, but a practice and recognition of generosity in our personal lives and in society can be constantly started with us. And, like with true love, true generosity is not for sale to the highest bidder.

[illegible]


"[MACFARLANE] PLAYS IT
COOL
EVEN WHEN
SWINGING
HARD"
—THE NEW YORK TIMES
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31
A NEW YEAR'S EVENT
Seth MacFarlane
SINGS WITH THE SF SYMPHONY
SAN FRANCISCO
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Berkeley's Win-Win

The city council just scored $10.5 million for affordable housing — and helped fight climate change at the same time.

By Robert Gammon

[illegible]



The Police Body Cameras Wars

Oakland is the new battleground in a fiercely competitive, billion-dollar market in which leading vendors fiercely fight to win lucrative contracts with police departments.

By Darwin BondGraham






Holidays
City Center
CHRISTMAS
KWANZAA


THE TRAPPIST
TRAPPIST PROVISIONS

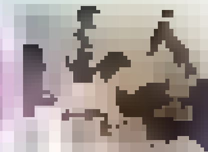

Festive, convenient holiday shopping at more than 65 shops and specialty stores with dining options galore. Strolling carolers to set the mood and Santa on site for the little ones.
FIND IT
AT
BAY
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COMMUNITY MATTERS

A local nonprofit resource directory

EAST BAY EXPRESS

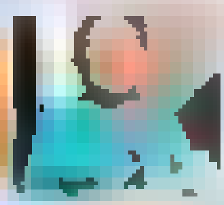


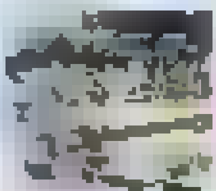












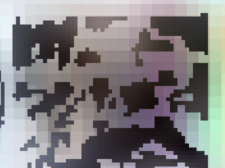








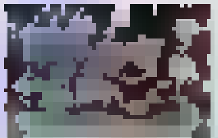










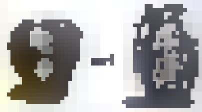


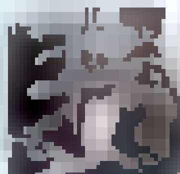










Oakland's Perfect Storm

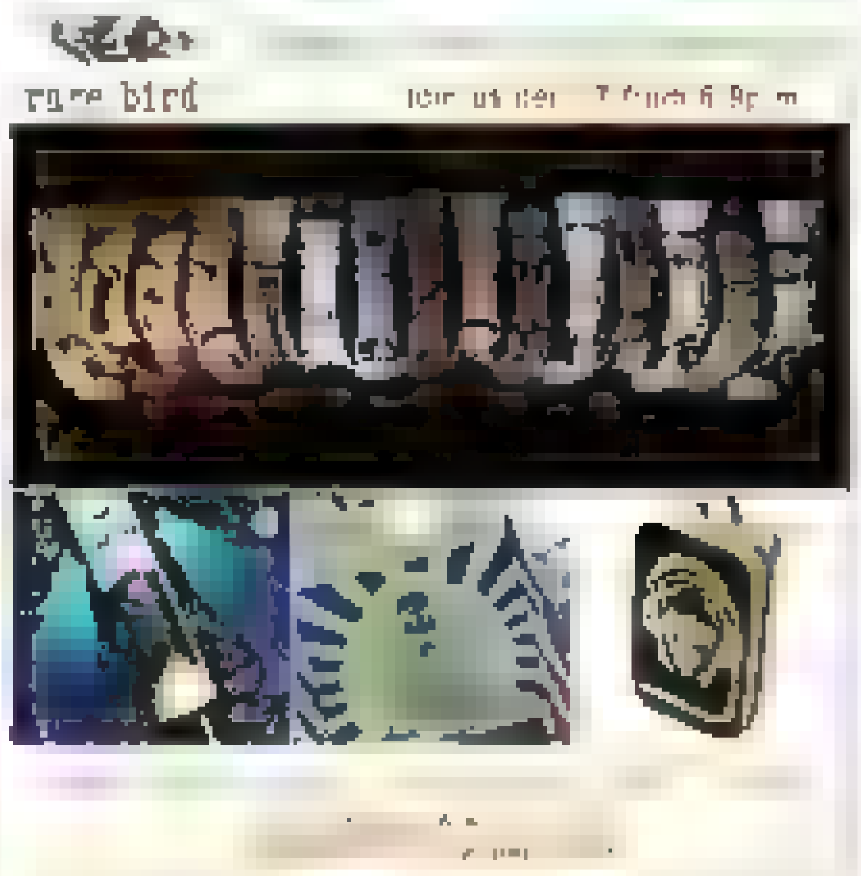
As the city has failed to build enough housing and has been slow to respond to the affordability crisis, more and more people are being displaced

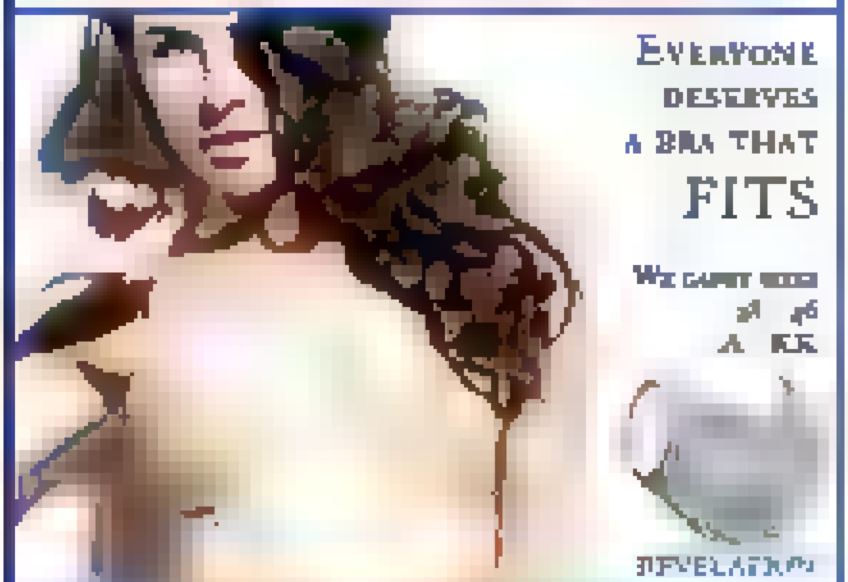
By Lucas Waldron

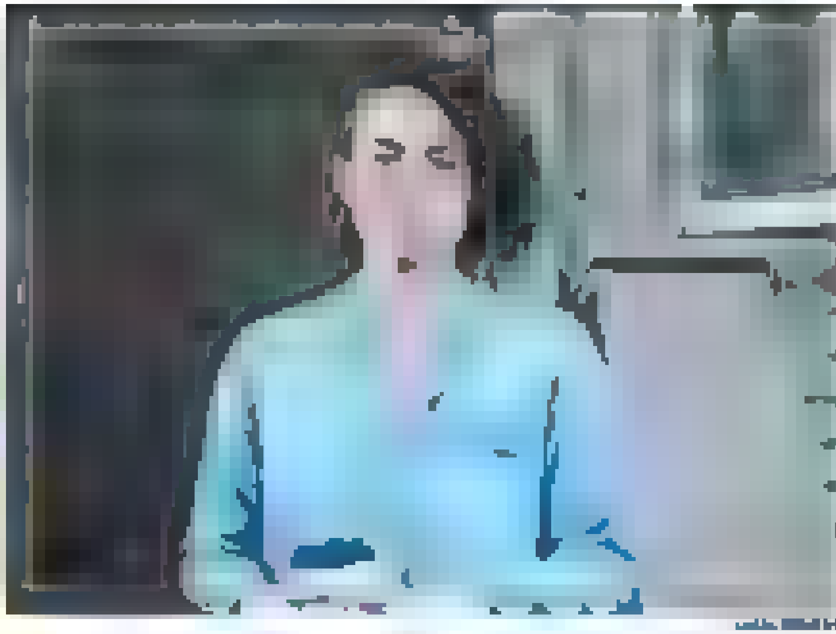


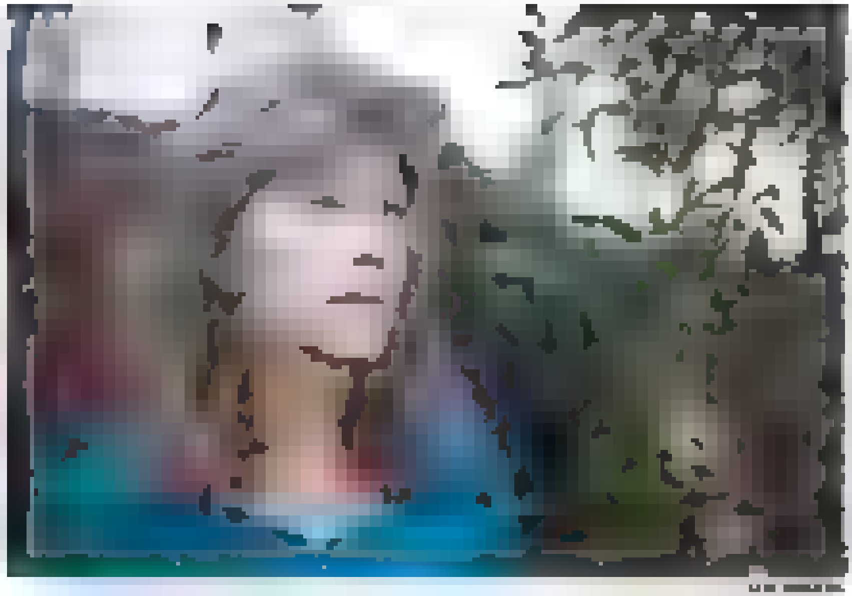



EXPRESS
YOURSELF
IN STYLE
MARY WEATHER


rare bird





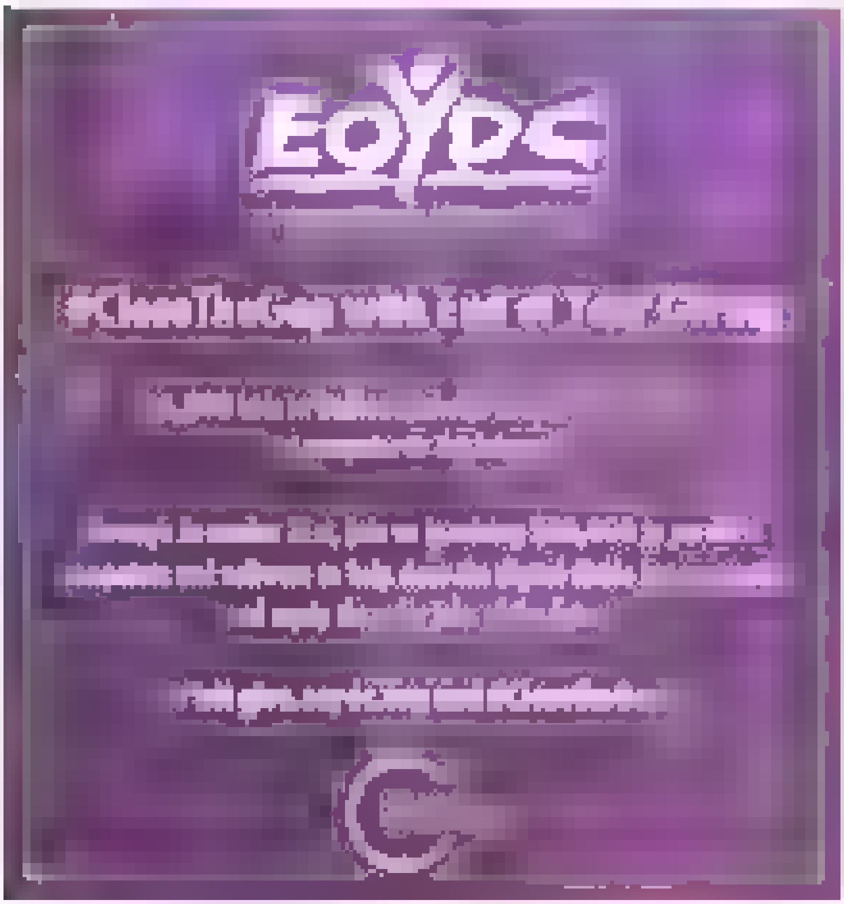


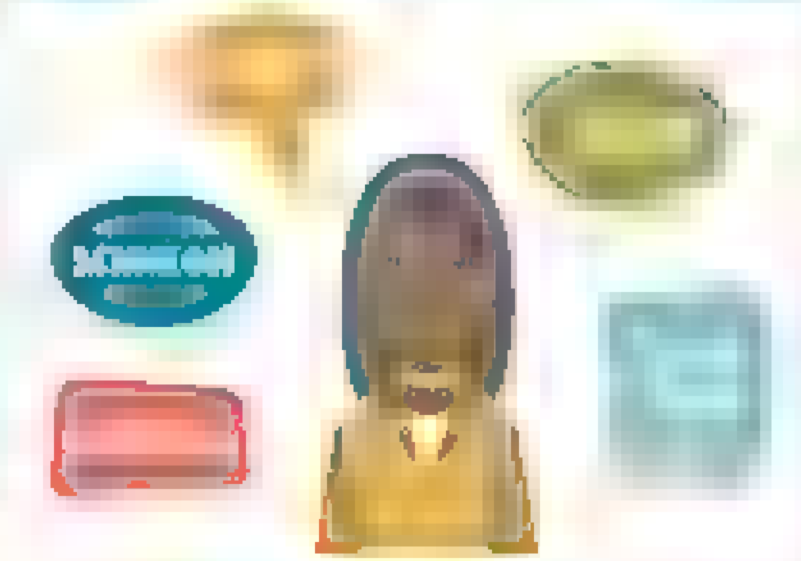
"I work all over the Bay Area, and I see what's going on," said Inouye. "The bottom line is, if you're middle class, or poor, it's really hard for you."

NEW YEAR'S EVE AND DAY






EOYDC





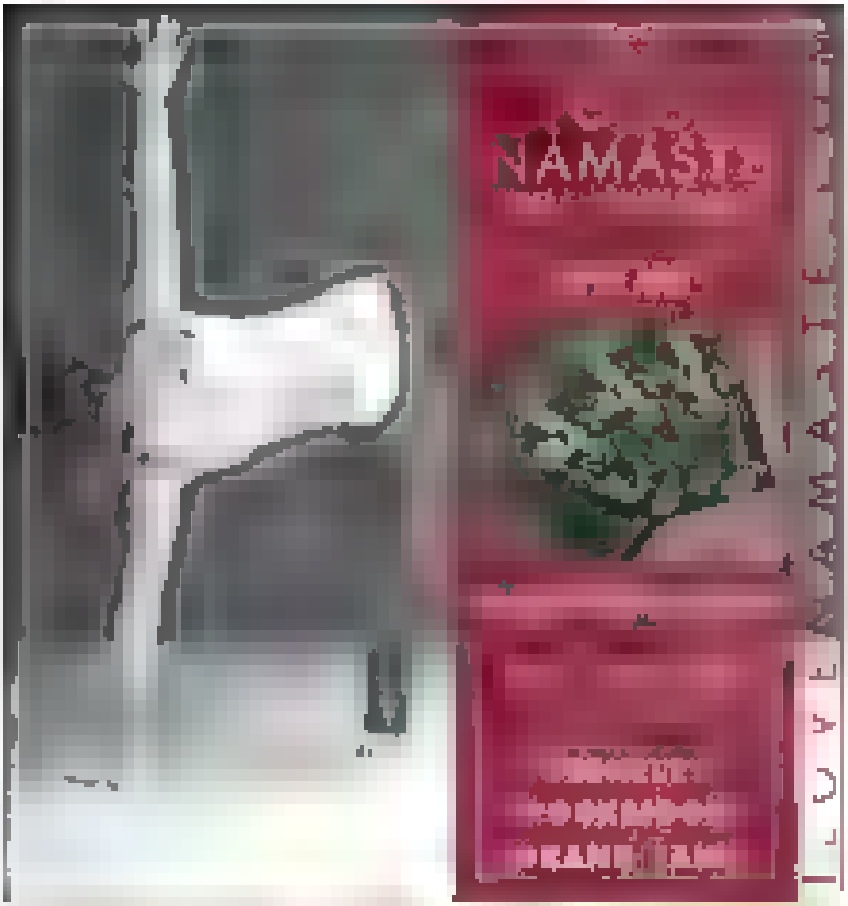
Oceanic Aspirations

Oakland artist Constance Hockaday plays off the possibilities existing in the water and everyone's right to experience them

By Sarah Burke

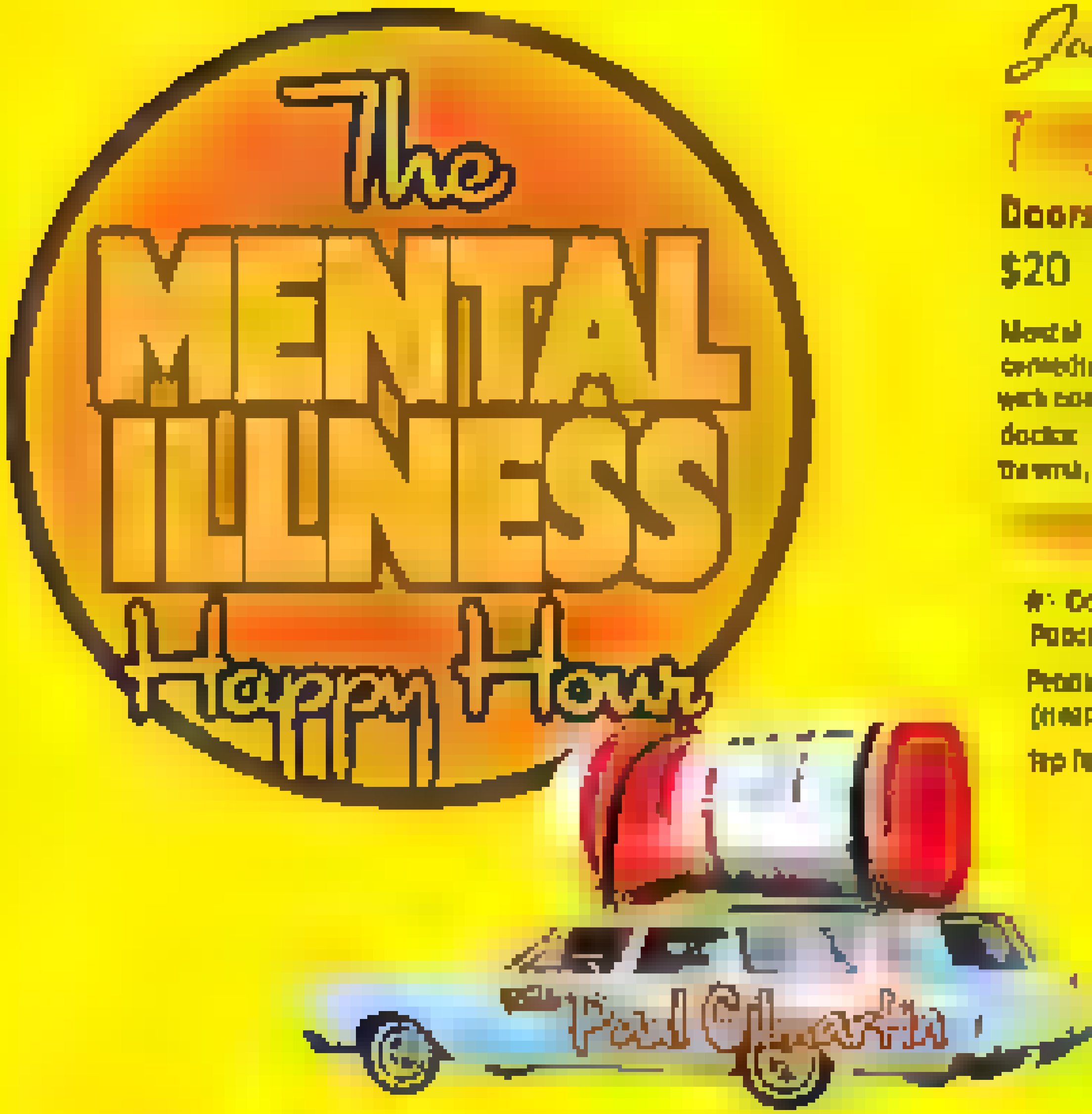
Cheyne Court: The Documentary






FIND IT AT BAY STREET
SANTA AT BAY STREET
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays throughout the holiday season

A Special Presentation by EAST BAY EXPRESS



Join us for a live podcast

Doors: 6:30p.m., Show: 7:30p.m.

$20 Door $15 Advance 21+

Mental Illness Happy Hour is a podcast hosted by comedian Paul Gilmartin, consisting of interviews with comedians, artists, friends, and the occasional doctor. Each episode explores mental illness, trauma, addiction and negative thinking.

People's Choice Podcast Award Winner (Health & Fitness) 2012

Top Ten Podcasts of 2011 – The Onion AV Club

The Uptown*

928 TELEGRAPH

UptownNightClub.com



Hosted by



Episode Guest

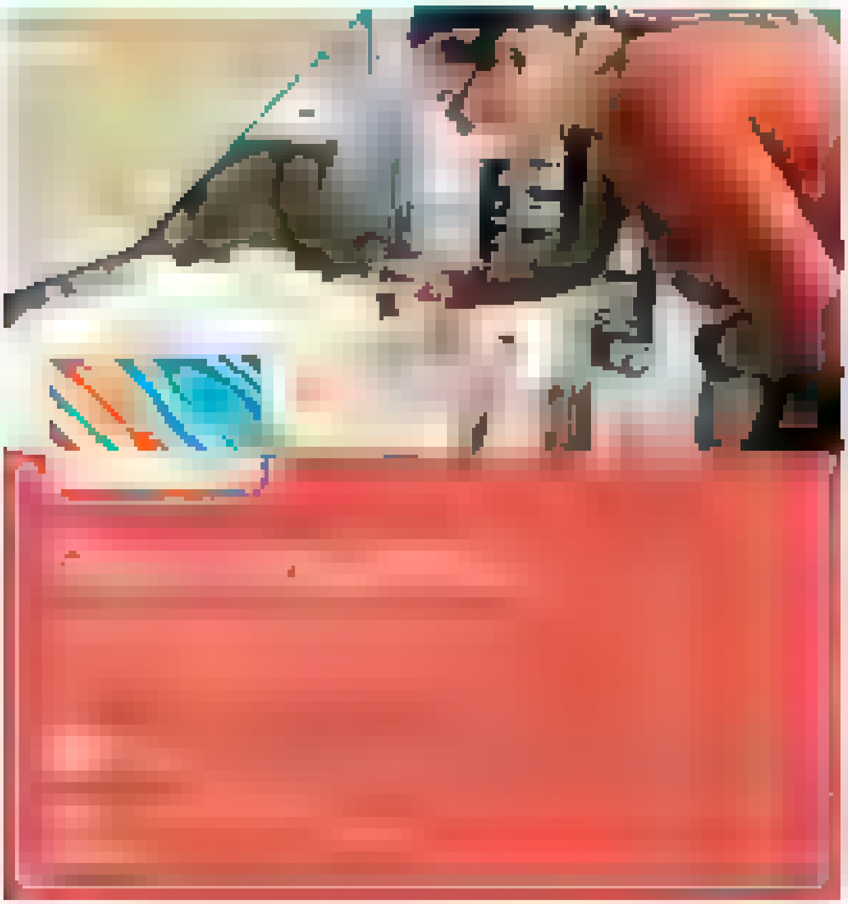
Collective Control

A new all-female art collective in West Oakland called CTRL+SHIFT hopes to prove that experimental and inclusive art spaces can still be viable in the Bay Area.

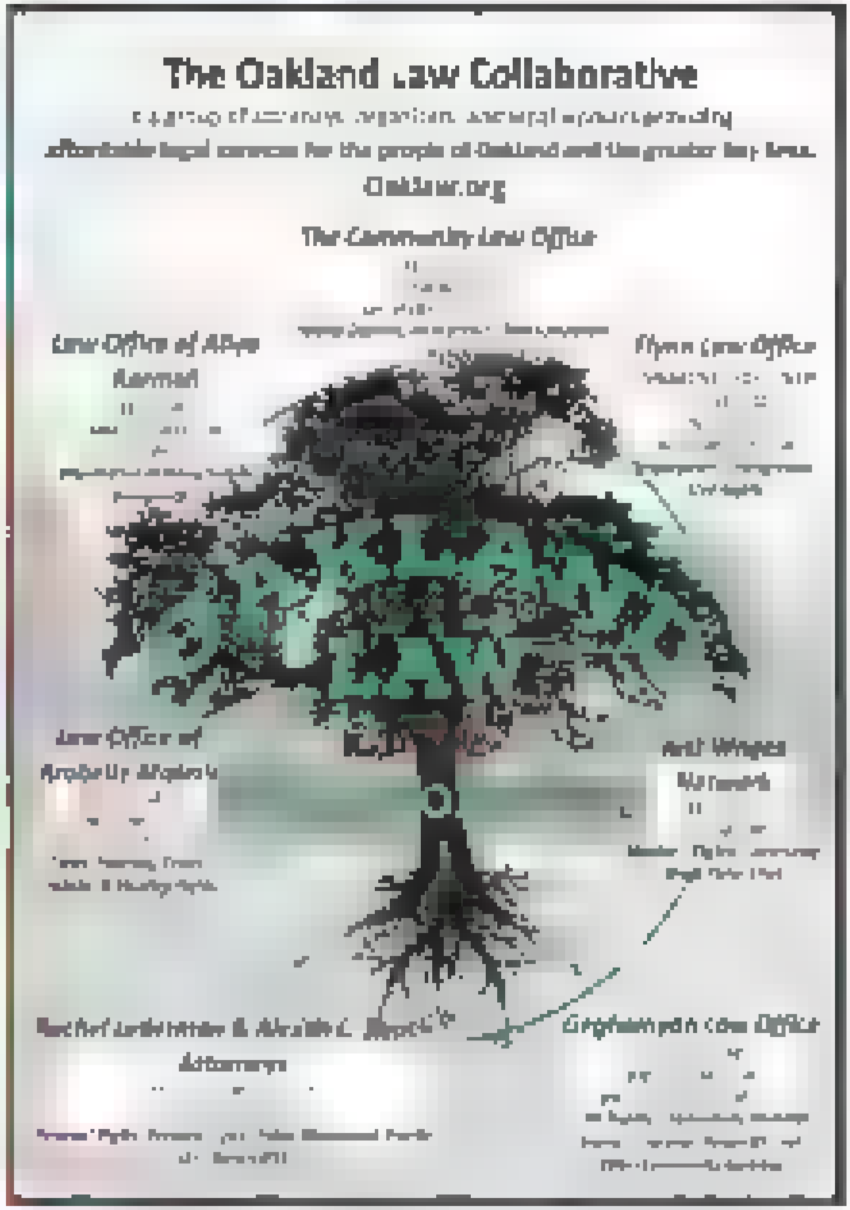
By Sarah Burke

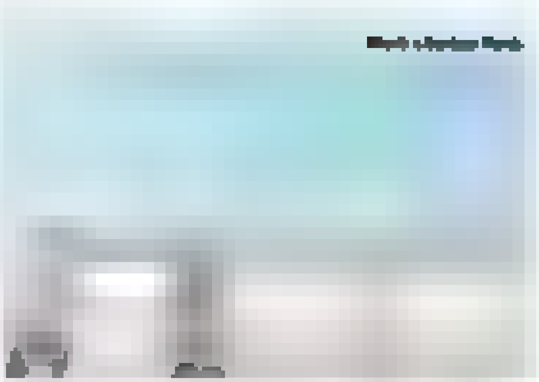



25% OFF
ROOTS of TOUCH




Nutcracker
Tickets: $18 per seat


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CRAFT FAIR


WINTER
SOLSTICE
CELEBRATION


EAST BAY EXPRESS

SATURDAY STROLL

UPTOWN GALLERIES

DOWNTOWN OLD OAKLAND GALLERIES

NORTHWEST GALLERIES

JACK LONDON GALLERIES

EAST GALLERIES

2ND SATURDAY WALKING TOUR: DECEMBER

2 - 4PM | FREE

EAST BAY EXPRESS

Ex Nihilo Theater's Terra Incognita









DeMarcus Gipson and 'The Plan'





The Happiest Happy Hour

If you come at the right time, La Marcha's tapas are a delicious bargain.

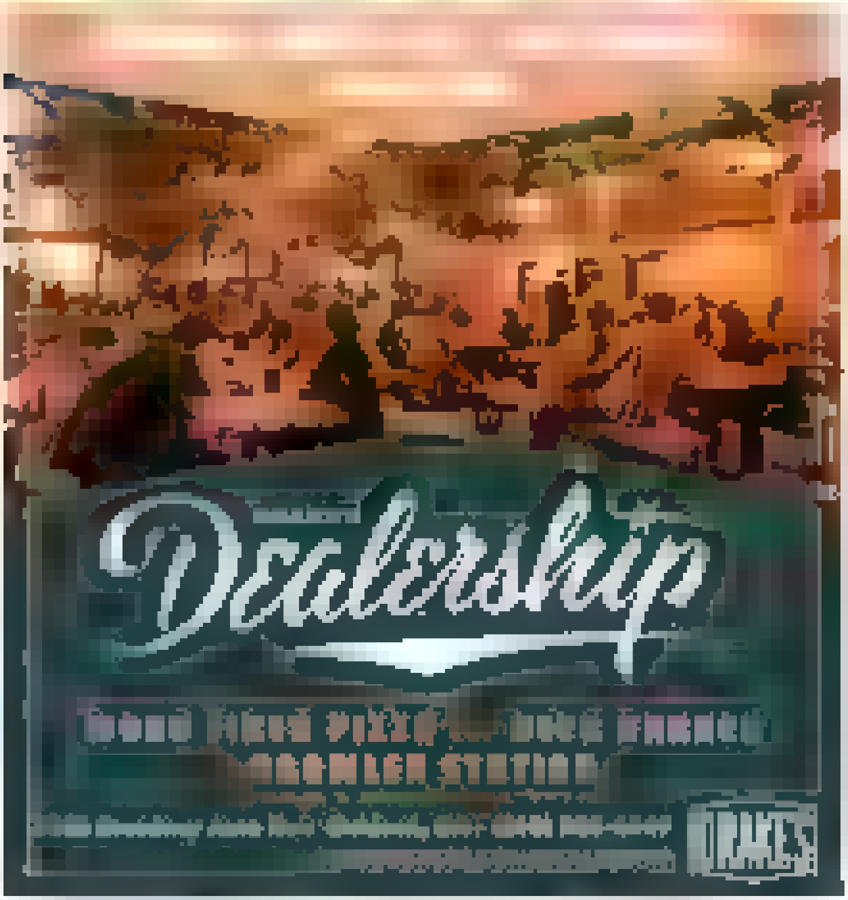
By Luke Tsai

La Marcha

Sample Menu




FREE
Coffee


Dealership





Bill Owens' Next Big Idea Is to Go Even Smaller

By Luke Tsai



Tapas and Small Plates Restaurants in Berkeley and Oakland

À Côté

Bocanova

César

Cheol Cafe

Duende

Enoteca Molinari

Fonda Restaurant and Bar

Ippuku

Marc 49

Penrose

Salsipuedes

Cafe Kim Thuy

Pyramids Restaurant & Grill

Tacubaya

Shakewell

Vanessa's Bistro

Venga Paella

Vik's Chaat & Market

Zaatar


SHRIMP & SHUCK
HAPPY HOUR
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY


More than JUST Ramen


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Buy one
Italian Ice
Get one FREE!
FLAVOR BRIGADE
ITALIAN ICE







Free Food Day at Lucky Three Seven



Holiday Gifts

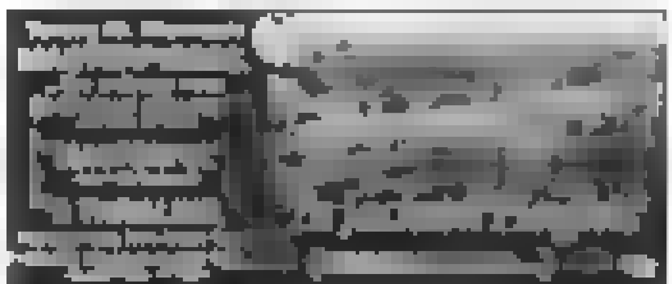


The Danish Girl

The Big Short

Showtimes Online


3 GOLDEN
AWARD NOMINATIONS
A CINEMATIC LANDMARK
THE DANISH GIRL




GOLDEN GLOBE
BROOKLYN
NOW PLAYING IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE

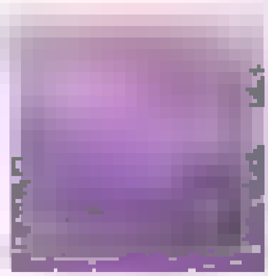

GOLDEN GLOBE
JANE FONDA

ONE-NIGHT STANDS

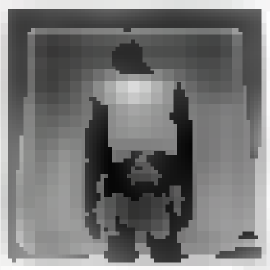
Tuning in to the Moon

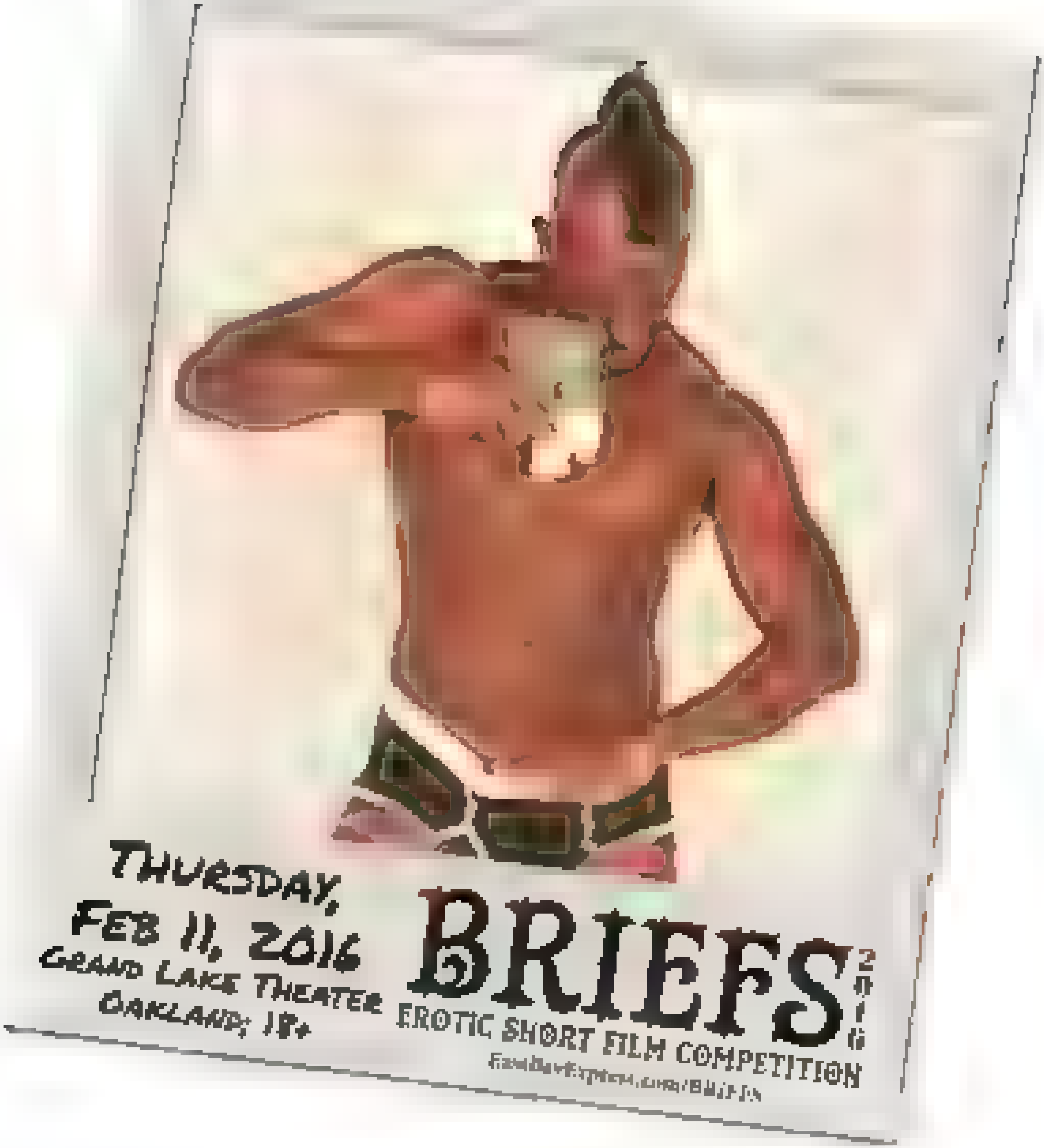


New Rap Releases In Review








Thursday,
Feb 11, 2016
Grand Lake Theater
Oakland; 18+
BRIEFS
2016
EROTIC SHORT FILM COMPETITION
EastBayExpress.com/BRIEFS



THURSDAY 17

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

FRIDAY 18

Blues, Folk, & Country

Gospel & Vocal

Holiday Music

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton







[illegible]

Gospel & Vocal

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible]

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible]

Classical & Opera

[illegible]

Gospel & Vocal

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

SUNDAY 20

All Ages

[illegible]

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible]

Gospel & Vocal

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible]

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible]

Gospel & Vocal

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible]

MONDAY 21

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

Blues, Folk, & Country

Gospel & Vocal

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

TUESDAY 22

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Kids

Rock & Pop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Gospel & Vocal

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

WEDNESDAY 23

Blues, Folk, & Country

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country

Gospel & Vocal

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

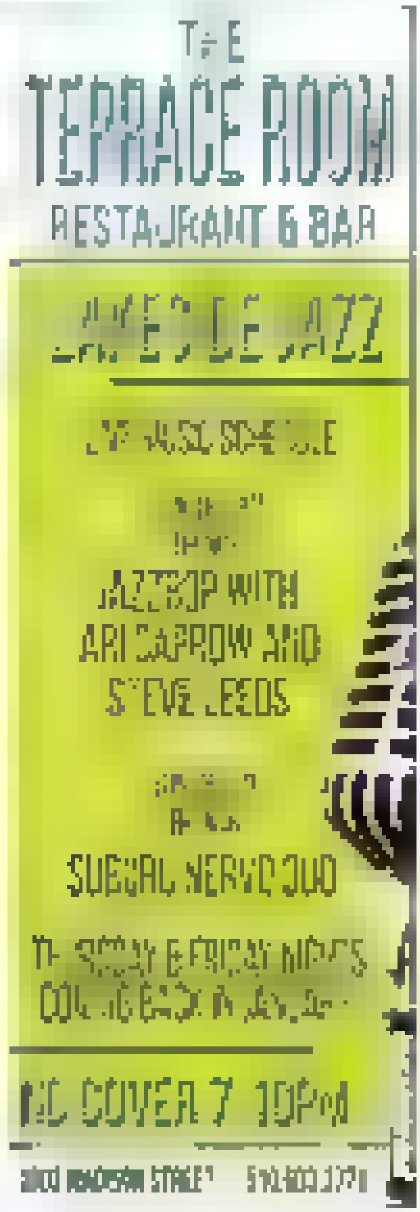
Rock & Pop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton









THURSDAY 17

EAST BAY

SAN FRANCISCO

FRIDAY 18

EAST BAY

SATURDAY 19

EAST BAY

SAN FRANCISCO

SUNDAY 20

EAST BAY

SAN FRANCISCO

MONDAY 21

EAST BAY

SAN FRANCISCO

TUESDAY 22

EAST BAY

SAN FRANCISCO

WEDNESDAY 23

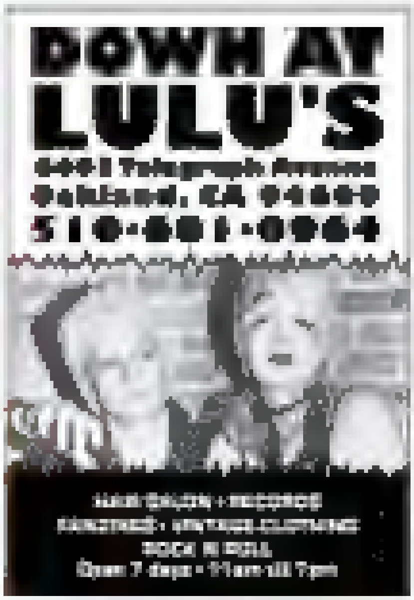
EAST BAY

PICK

Metal Mother and Violent Vickie

SAN FRANCISCO







Cock Locked

How male chastity devices work, and when you should take one off

By Dan Savage

After spending some years in the doldrums after having kids, my husband and I are now enjoying hot, kinky sex and the occasional free pass to fuck other people. We couldn't be happier. I have a friend who was extremely keen for me to cage his cock with the same kind of locking male chastity device I got for my husband — a fixed-ring stainless-steel type. I have two questions: (1) It took some maneuvering to get my husband's balls through one by one, followed by his cock, but we managed. Is it okay for his balls to squish up tight, get cold, and go purple when he's wearing the cock cage and he is aroused? He says it doesn't hurt, and he is wearing it only while I peg him — a couple of hours tops. I worry that even though he can squeeze into the ring, he might be cutting off circulation and doing damage. (2) My friend couldn't get his balls and cock into the cage. His balls never dropped as a child, so he had an operation that pulled them down but fixed them in place. Consequently, they sit "high and tight" and can't be pulled away from his body. Can you recommend a cage that might fit him? He is into total submission and orgasm denial, and he wants to experience long-term forced chastity and relinquish control of his dick to me. (Hot, right?!) If a cage can't work for him, are there other (legal) methods I can use to give him that sense of surrendered cock and loss of control?

Bitch Ably Locking Lucky Boys Up Properly

1. "The first rule of thumb when it comes to male chastity is that if the balls go blue or cold, take the fucking cock cage off!" said Christopher Mistre, the founder and creative force behind Steelworks (SteelWorksBoston.com), purveyor of the world's finest male chastity devices.

"I'm a firm believer in play safe, stay comfortable, and cause pain or discomfort only when it's asked for and nobody is at risk of long-term damage," said Mistre. "So for the sake of their marriage and the longevity of their hot, kinky sex life, BALLBUP needs to get her guy a cage that keeps him trapped but still in the realm of safe!"

A short primer for readers who aren't familiar with male chastity devices: Most are anchored in place by a ring that goes around the shaft and behind the balls. The penis slides into a cylinder that attaches to the top of the ring, and the cylinder prevents erections and can even punish erections. (Some are lined with spikes.) Once the chastity device is locked — cheaper ones with a wee padlock, spendier ones with something more artful — there's no way to remove it (and free the cock) without tearing the balls off.

Back to you, BALLBUP: Mistre has been creating custom-made, high-quality stainless-steel male chastity devices for 15 years — so he's the recognized expert on male chastity devices here, not your husband. Listen to Mistre and toss the device you're using now and get your husband a chastity cage that doesn't turn his balls purple. You may have to experiment with some other designs and an assortment of cock rings before you find the one that locks his cock down without choking his balls off.

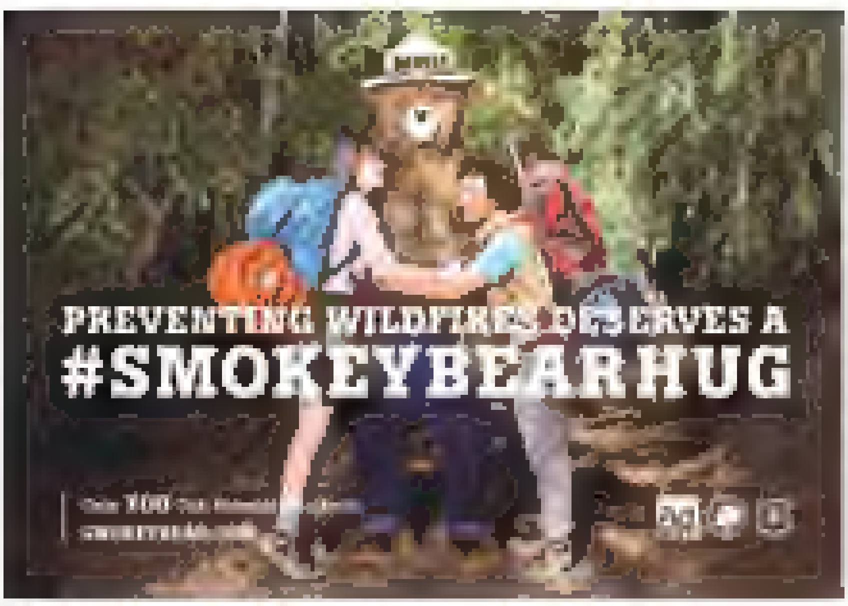
"I often hear from guys who wear cages made with a one-piece, slip-on-style cock ring that it allows them to slip in easily and comfortably — but a lot of guys can remove these chastity devices even when they're 'locked,'" said Mistre. "But a cage with a smaller, more secure cock ring often results in a cock ring that is too tight, especially when the person is using cheaper, mass-produced cages. The best chastity devices are ones that come with a cock ring that can be opened via a hinge or taken apart — then you can get a ring that might be too small to push his balls through using the one-ball-after-the-other method, but because the ring comes apart, getting it on and off is much easier while providing the safety and inescapability both parties are looking for."

2. "I encountered my first client with the 'balls not dropping issue' a few years back, and it is a challenge when it comes to chastity," said Mistre. "For most of these guys, I encourage a PA as a means of anchoring a lightweight chastity device." (A PA, also known as a Prince Albert, involves putting a bonus hole in the urethra below the head of the cock and putting a ring through it.) "A PA combined with a chastity device is the most durable and secure way to lock a guy's cock up for long-term orgasm denial and forced chastity play."

But if your friend can handle some pressure on his balls, BALLBUP, a traditional style chastity device with a hinged or two-piece cock ring might work.

"Because the balls sit high and tight, it is important that the overall gap (the gap between the front of the cock ring and the tube opening) isn't too tight, as this could possibly put more pressure on his balls," said Mistre. "The last option would be a full chastity belt. While some of the belts out there are incredibly sexy and completely secure, experience and client feedback tell me that in the long-term, these are not ideal for a guy who wants to be kept in chastity every day." You can follow Christopher Mistre on Twitter @SteelWorks.

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at Savagelovecast.com.
mail@savagelove.net



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